

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the present Specification as follows:

On Page 1, above line 1 and below the title, please insert the following:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 of German Patent Application No. 198 29 970.2 filed July 4, 1998. Applicant also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 365 of International Application No. PCT/DE99/01783 filed June 17, 1999. The PCT Patent Application was not published in English under PCT article 21(2).

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field Of The Invention --

On Page 1, between lines 9 and 10, please insert:

--2. The Prior Art--

On Page 6, between lines 22 and 23, please insert:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

On Page 6, please amend the paragraph in lines 23 to 26 to read as follows:

--According to ~~the aim~~ an object of the invention, a method shall be suggested after which UV polarizers that show polarization effects over a wave length range as broad as possible can be produced in a cost-efficient way using simple starting materials.--

On Page 6, please amend the paragraph in lines 27 to 30 to read as follows:

--According to the invention, this ~~problem is solved~~ object is achieved by using the method as described. ~~in~~ ~~claim no 1.~~ The method according to the invention is further developed. ~~by the patent claims nos. 2 through to and~~ ~~including 15.~~--

On Page 7, please amend the paragraph in lines 1 to 2 to read as follows:

--The ~~solution~~ object according to the invention ~~needs~~ ~~being is~~ further explained, as follows. --

On Page 8, please amend the paragraph in lines 21 to 23 to read as follows:

--As explained, the embedding of metal ions by ion implantation and ion exchange processes makes up the first step of the method, according to ~~patent claim no. 1~~ the invention. --

On Page 9, please amend the paragraph in lines 6 to 8 to read as follows:

--The reduction of metal ions when tempering corresponds to the second step of the method as described in ~~patent claim no. 1~~ the invention. This only leads to a rather narrow particle size profile.--

On Page 9, please amend the paragraph in lines 9 to 12 to read as follows:

--In another tempering step (after-tempering) taking place in a non-reducing atmosphere a reforming process leads to even bigger particles. In this context, reference is made to the third step of the method as described in ~~patent claim no. 1~~ the invention. --

On Page 9, please amend the paragraph in lines 13 to 27 to read as follows:

--At this point, the above treatment is repeated. Again, metal ions are embedded into the glass (fourth step of the method as described in ~~the invention patent claim no. 1~~), and again small new particles are created (fifth step of the method as described in ~~the invention patent claim no. 1~~), without bringing about any great changes to the bigger particles already formed in the third step. In the following deformation process (sixth step of the method as described in ~~the invention patent claim no. 1~~) the particles undergo a transformation from spherical into revolution-ellipsoidal shape. It could be demonstrated that the particles' deformation, described by their semiaxis ratios after deforming, for example, depends to a great extent on their sizes, i.e., bigger particles become more deformed than smaller ones, while the other deformation conditions and factors are the same to all size categories.--

On Page 10, please amend the paragraph in lines 1 to 9 to read as follows:

--The particles in their deformed shape are thermally stable up to temperatures near their lower cooling point.

Above this temperature, however, they undergo a re-deformation back to their original spherical shape. This means that the method according to the invention may be altered so that after the third step of the method as described in ~~the invention patent claim no. 1~~ a deformation process might take place, to be followed by a second deformation step after the small particles have been created in the tempering step. ~~(cf. patent claim no. 2)~~

On Page 10, please amend the paragraph in lines 10 to 12 to read as follows:

--According to the invention, this principle is used, in a repeated treatment process, to create particle size profiles that are distinctively widened. ~~(cf. patent claim no. 3)~~

On Page 10, please amend the paragraph in lines 13 to 28 to read as follows:

--At temperatures above the lower cooling point the particles undergo a re-deformation and, consequently, cause a change to the dichroitic absorption bands. According to the invention, this behavior is used to tune up specific bands, whose maximum spectral positions locally differ in ranges

with laterally narrow limits corresponding to local energy inputs (cf. patent claim no. 4, and more specific patent claims nos. 12 & 13). Also, the UV polarizers produced according to the invention are characterized by the fact that the dichroitic absorption effect is caused in an only very thin near-surface layer of the glass. If this layer is locally (i.e., partially or completely) removed, flat-structured UV polarizers can be designed, for example, by employing a lacquer mask created in a photo-lithographic process, followed by an etching step using hydro-fluoric acid applied to a certain surface area (cf. patent claim no. 14).

÷ --

On Page 10, between lines 28 to 29, please insert the following:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --

FIG. 1 shows optical density as a function of wave length in nm.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--